SHINMAKOKU*

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& KAMINARI

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SABISHIGARIYA NO KOI (LOVE STORY OF THE LONESOME MAN)

BY : HALCO

I HATE THIS CITY.
rattle
rattle
TRUTH BE TOLD,
rattle
rattle
ON TOP OF IT ALL, MY GIRL-FRIEND DUMPED ME JUST THE OTHER DAY.
I FIND IT A LITTLE HARD TO TRUST ANYONE RIGHT NOW.
EVERYONE HERE IS SUPERFICIAL AND PRETEN-TIOUS,
AND I CAN NO LONGER TELL WHAT'S REAL ANY-MORE.
THIS IS MY THIRD YEAR WORKING IN TOKYO SINCE I LEFT MY HOME-TOWN.
寂しがりやの恋
Sabishigariya no Koi
rattle
rattle
THIS IS...
ONE SCARY CITY.
slide
WHEN YOU'RE BURIED IN SO MANY PEOPLE LIKE THIS EVERY DAY,
IT'S EASY TO LOSE YOURSELF.
screech

BUT STILL, I STAYED,
BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT IF I WAIT LONG ENOUGH, ONE DAY...
Nao-hisa!!
grab
Thank God...
I finally get to see you again...!
...huh?
Naohisa?

寂しがりやの恋

Love Story of the Lonesome Man

Wait a second! Please let go!
You've got the wrong person, I'm...
...ugh...
Ugh...?
.....
.....
Uhm...
rattle
rattle
GAAAAHH...
throw up
I told you, I'm not Naohisa!!
rub
rub
Nao-hisa...
Look what you've done!
splash
You've got to be kidding me!!

Ah... okay.
I'll need to lock up the station soon.
Please take your friend with you.
WHAT!?
Naohisa...
What's with him?
He seems really desperate
Thank you for your help.
WHAT!?
Well then, please take him outside anyway.
No... I don't know this guy at all.
shock
"Thank you for your help", just like that ...?
Ah... dammit!
Get up!!
Get sick AFTER you get out of the station!
Ugh...
NO UGH!!

Call a taxi...

Ca...

Haah...
.....

Why must this happen to me...
Sorry, I'm getting out here, too.
WAH !!!
GETTING OFF
Why...
GETTING ON
Huh?
Wait a minute, you can't just let a drunk person sit in the car alone.
wobble
flop

Come on, take out your keys!!
Where the hell do you live!?
THIS HAS GOT TO BE THE WORST WEEKEND...
drop
Nao-hisa!!
bang
Wait...!!
But now I can finally go home...
grab
Hmm?
Hah
haah!
He's
he's so heavy.

PULL
This is too much!!
Naohisa
You'd bet-ter...
Please don't go.
...WHAT
AND NOW HE'S ASLEEP!!
Zzz... Zzz...
.....
.....
WHAT THE HELL'S WITH THIS GUY!?
...!
pulls away
WHAT
HMMM
MMM
WHAT
MMM
WHAT
cling
cling
cling
cling

strong hold
And yet...
He won't let go!!
Noooooooo
LET ME GOOOOOOOOO
struggle
struggle
struggle
Zzz...
Zzz...
Chirp
Chirp
exhausted
Chirp
...huh...
wakes up
.....
where am I?
WHAT WAS I DOING?

I'm in
that photo.
Huh?
right
...oh,
Last night, this guy suddenly grabbed me at the station...
SO HE MUST'VE MISTAKEN ME FOR HIM.
He called me Naohisa.
WHAT!?
SO HE'S MISTAKEN ME AND [redacted] THAT?
NOT
Mistaken?
Who are you?
He looks like me, but he's someone else.
Wait, no.

You can't just enter someone's house without permission.
Shall
...oh.
Uhm... Well...
What are you doing here?
So that's... what I did...
I see...
Clink
...I

I am really sorry!!
bow
I was really drunk last night, since I'm not used to drinking, and I was feeling carsick in the train at the same time!!
It's... it's all right.
I was just really surprised.
Well, you were drunk, there's nothing you can do...
?
stare
...what is it?
Well...
Last night, did I do something to you?
Huh?
freeze

stand
Please wait!
Ple...
I'd better get going.
Oh, in that case,
.....
no... nothing at all...
Thank God.
sigh
That's all right then.
What does he mean by something!!?
I was the one who soiled them last night, right?
Your clothes,
I'll lend you my clothes for now.
No, you don't have to!
We'll go buy you some new clothes.
What!?
Clothes?
Please, allow me to compensate.
Let me make it up to you!
Wa... wait a minute!!
The towels are over there...
Oh, it's better if you take a bath, too.
pull
pull

I'm sure it doesn't...
Haha...
It looks very nice on you.
We'll take it, please.
I think it looks great.
!!
And also some casual wear that suits him.
Yes, sir.
Let's see.
...THIS GUY
He...
He's not even listening.
That's enough, really!!
fluster
Waah! Waah!
fluster
How about these over here?
They're great.
I don't want them! I don't want them!

REALLY,
WHO IS HE..?
gloom
Are you tired?
thud
Uh... yeah...
open
Let's take a short break here.
You usually do this with Naohisa?
halt
It's been a long time since I've gone out with anyone.
I'm sorry
for taking you around like this until so late.

I'm sorry, that was...
...no,
it's okay.
Naahisa and I were lovers.
We did everything together.
I knew it.
OH!
Ah
What...
no, um,
you called me by that name last night,
and I saw your picture with him...
and you guys look really close, so...
But,
one day, he suddenly disappeared.
And I've been searching for him since
He changed my life.
I was a boring guy who didn't know what it is to really live life...
and he taught me the happiness of loving someone.

He's really important to me,
so even now, I can't give him up.
How stupid of me.
I'm probably dumped already, but I still can't let go.
That's...
...I see.
I never thought of how it works between two guys,
but it's not too different from love between a guy and a girl.
.....
In that case
I, too...

I was dumped by my girlfriend who cheated on me.
Actually, I'm like you.
I think I can understand a little about how you feel.
Huh?
and started to hate this city,
I even thought of going back to my hometown.
I stopped trusting people afterwards,
We'd even discussed marriage,
and yet she left me for another man.
But the fact that I'm thinking all these things,
just proves that I haven't let go either.
So I'm not really that much better than you.
ahaha

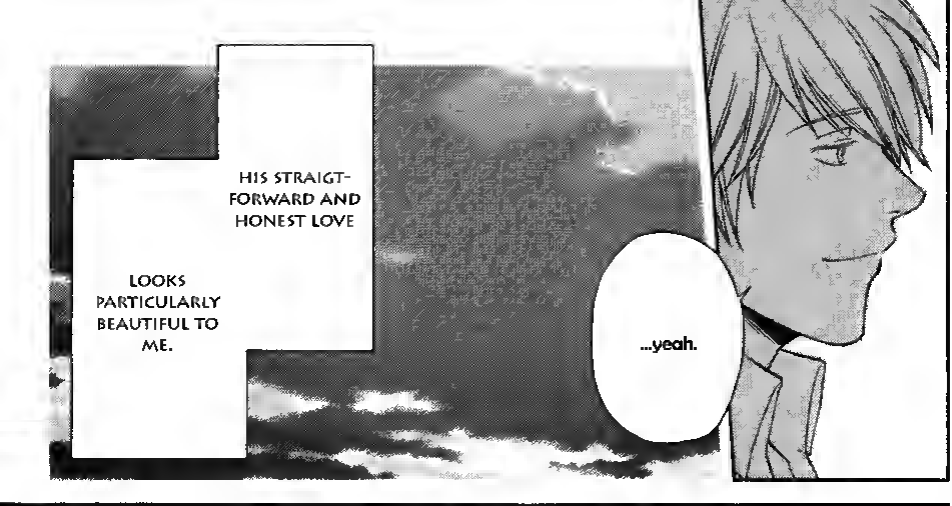
So I'm not the only one who's hurting.
...I see.

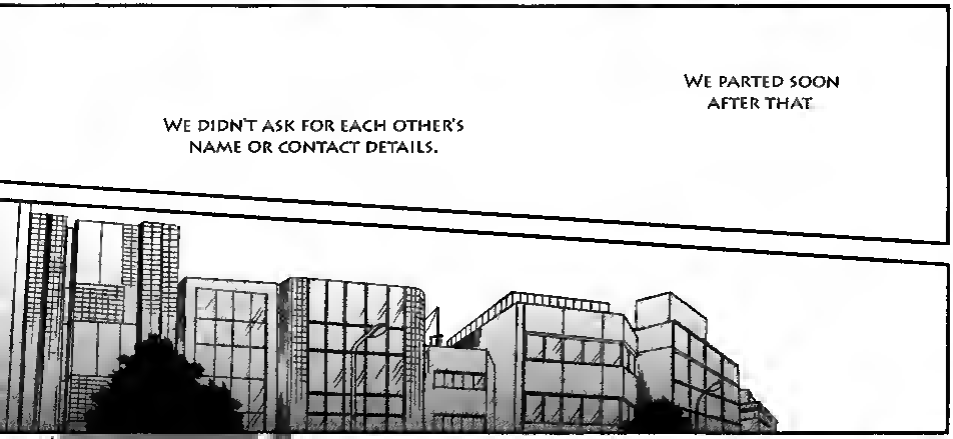
You don't like subways?
I hate trains,
but I'm glad I've been getting on them every day since I got to meet you.
Thank you for being so honest with me.
Na, that's not..
I'm feeling much better now.

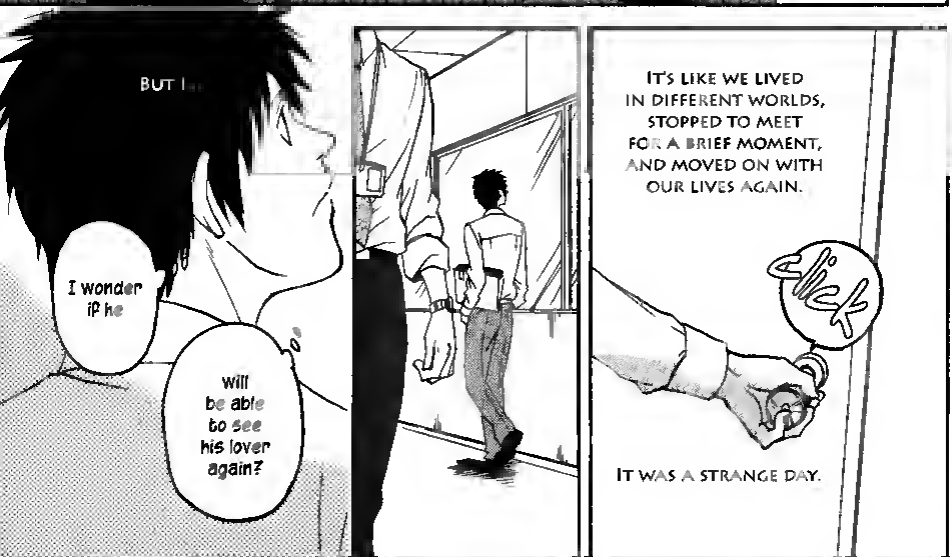
...that subway line,
is the one he uses all the time.
But don't you have a car?
Why did you get on the train?
I really really cannot stand them.
ugh
I hate tight spaces
that's why he was so sick last night.
Oh,

.. WHAT A STRANGE MAN.
where I might have a chance to see the person I want to see.
but they're the only place
I don't like trains,

RIGHT NOW,
THAT MUST BE BECAUSE,
and I hope you guys can get back together.
I hope you'll find Naohisa,
I CAN FEEL A KIND OF CALMNESS IN ME
AS I'M TALKING TO HIM,


HIS STRAIGT-FORWARD AND HONEST LOVE
LOOKS PARTICULARLY BEAUTIFUL TO ME.
...yeah.


WE DIDN'T ASK FOR EACH OTHER'S NAME OR CONTACT DETAILS.
WE PARTED SOON AFTER THAT.


BUT I...
I wonder if he
will be able to see his lover again?
IT'S LIKE WE LIVED IN DIFFERENT WORLDS, STOPPED TO MEET FOR A BRIEF MOMENT, AND MOVED ON WITH OUR LIVES AGAIN.
click
IT WAS A STRANGE DAY.

CAN'T SEEM TO FORGET HIS SMILE, EVEN AFTER A FEW DAYS.
Hmph.
It's only a little after seven.
I'll go grab a coffee.
honk
honk
honk
See you!
Yeah, see you tomorrow.

Ah~~
I'm sooooo
tired~~~~~~
Nao~~~~~~~
Hurry~~~~~~
damn
She's
so loud.
flop
Oh!
Here, right
here! There's
an empty
table here~~~!
I've seen
this guy
before.
But
where?
Shut up,
you're way
too loud.
What~~~~
No way~~~~
creak
HUH?
...AH!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'D SEE HIM HERE...
he kinda looks different in the picture...
...but
turn
HE'S THAT GUY! ERR...
NAOHISA! HE'S NAOHISA!!

When is it ganna happen~~?
Dunno, I don't have the money for it now.
Hey, that reminds me~
didn't you say you'd take me travelling the other day~?

There was like this stupid old man with loads of money.
flinch
Sponsor? Nao, do you mean you had a sugar mummy or something?
Yeah, something like that.

What~? Why~? Didn't you have a lot of cash to spend before~~?
That was different, I had a sponsor then.

What~!? Ewww gross~~ an old man!?
Well, I call him an old man, but he's actually not that old.
I only said a few sweet words, and he just took the bait like that.
All I had to do was play cute and he'd give me anything.
Really~
He's like some ignorant preppy and stuff,
but he was getting more and more serious with me,
it started to really creep me out...
Stand
.....?
Who are you?
...!
Kyaa!
Pour
grab
What do you want...

What did you call me just now?
grab
Huh?
rattle
What the...
You...!!
I called you a bastard, because that's what you are
You're disgusting!!
Shut up you bastard!!
You messin' with me!?
rattle rattle
slam
bustle
bustle
Shut up!
He start-ed it...
Mister, please stop!
bustle
shove
What the hell are you going on about!?
What!?
Ex...
excuse me!

WHAT THE HELL WAS I DOING?
rattle rattle
OH, GOD...
rattle rattle
HE REALLY LOVES YOU, YOU KNOW
HE HAS BEEN LOOKING EVERY-WHERE FOR YOU
...but,
what he did was terrible
I ACTED LIKE A TOTAL NUTCASE JUST NOW.
RAGRS
...I feel so sorry
for him.
rattle rattle
HE EVEN TOOK THE TRAIN THAT HE HATES EVERYDAY...
But still...
he...

...oh!
Eh...
!
You were looking for me just for that?
they just came back from the laundry service.
Here, your clothes that you left behind,
I'm so glad I chose the right exit.
What are you doing here...
SEARCHING FOR HIM?
And I wanted to see you...
ARE YOU STILL...
dizzy
It's okay, I was on my way home anyway.

Uuh...
...!
drip
DAMMIT! DAMMIT! THAT BASTARD
What...
drip
Huh?
I SHOULD'VE AT LEAST PUNCHED HIM ONCE.
Let's go to my place.
You can tell me everything there...
What's the matter!?
Huu...
Is something wrong?
stare
stare
oh no

...I see.
But,
I'm glad I found out the truth.
I'm sorry,
for getting you involved in something like this.
it's my own fault...
No...
Now I don't have to get on that train onymore.
And besides,
it's my own doing.
It's all because I'm such a poor judge of character...

It's not your fault at all!
You've fallen in love with someone, that's all!
He's the one to blame!!
that someone like him
could use you like that...
Why aren't you angry?
It's because you're so forgiving,
...well, of course I'm not completely allright about it.
But
no matter how much I blame him,
He was never there
the Naohisa I loved is nowhere to be found.
in the first place.

AH
thump
NOW I GET IT.
I'll be him.
In that case,
...I see
THE REASON I'M UNABLE TO FORGET THIS MAN
Wh...
Just for one night,
I'll be your "Naohisa."

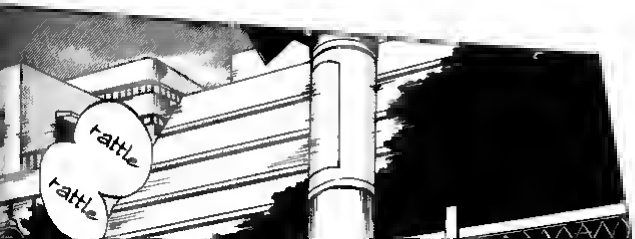
My reason?
But why?
What are you saying...
do you know what this means!?
I told you before. I can understand how you feel.
AND THE REASON I WAS SO ANGRY AT NAOHISA
Why do you have to do so much for me...
Of course I do.
PROBABLY,
EVER SINCE THE FIRST TIME I SAW THAT SMILE.
As two dumpees,
we can lick each other's wounds, can't we?
IS BECAUSE I AM
IN LOVE WITH THIS MAN.

...so you...
I'm not going out of my way suggesting this.
I say it because
I want to do this.
for a reason like that...
That's right.
RIGHT NOW, THE ONLY THING I CAN DO FOR HIM
IS TO BECOME
THE "NAOHISA" HE'S BEEN LOOKING FOR.
So please don't look like that.
My name is Kubota Masato.
.....
Masato.

IF HE CALLS ME BY MY NAME
I'LL DEFINITELY CRY
.....!
tell me your name?
Could you at least
...just call me Naohisa.
.....
Allright...
IN THE END
UNTIL THE END

HIS SAD,

LONELY SMILE.



I NEVER TOLD HIM MY NAME

AND WE HAVE NO WAY OF SEEING EACH OTHER AGAIN

I COULD EVER WIN HIM OVER THE "NAOHISA" IN HIS MIND.
BECAUSE I DIDN'T THINK
I WAS RUNNING AWAY.
BUT IT WAS A LIE.
I COULDN'T TELL HIM I LOVE HIM.
But, what if
we meet again?
HE WON'T BE HERE
WE'LL NEVER MEET BY CHANCE AGAIN.
rattle
rattle
rattle
rattle
NO,

Even if
I wish to see him again.
sfx: screech (train stopping)
pant
You... cut your hair.
sfx: bell ringing (train starting to move again)

pant
Thank God it's you.
I wasn't sure if you're the right person.
What...?
slide
rattle
rattle
Well,
Why are you here...?
Why...
rattle
remember what I said before?
This is the place
where I might have a chance to see the person I want to see.

And I told myself, if I really do see you again here,
I'll definitely ask you this time.
.....huh?
I want to know your real name.
The one that's not "Naahisa."
Wh...
what?
Why are you crying!?
I HATE
THIS CITY

THE END

::: SHINMAKOKU_SCANLATIONS :::
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捨(す)て猫(ねこ)のカルテ

HALCO
ハルコ